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EASTERN

F.O.
371

1947

PALESTINE

File No. 84

pp. 2597 - 3345

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61840

CLOSED
UNTIL
1978

61840

1947

E

E 2597

2

PALESTINE

26 MAR

Registry Number

E2597/84/31

FROM

Reel. J. Fowler

No.

Legation

Dated

25

Received in Registry

12 Mar 1947

26 - -

Illegal Immigrant Ships

Refer Legation of 9. of Feb 26 (E1787/84/31)
Report verbal information from Mly of Foreign Affairs that in future no provisional certificates of ships registry may be granted by Hordlerman consular officers at U.S. ports without reference to Mly of Foreign Affairs & Legation.

Last Paper.

25-96

(Minutes.)

Copy of Adm. } usual names
& resubmit }
15 Mar 26

References.

(Print.)

61840

(How disposed of.)

of Higham. P.O.
Dodds Admty
~~Smith~~

Mar

(Action completed)

GEM 9/4

(Index)

2/2/48

Next Paper.

E2674

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61840**

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

K. M.

CONFIDENTIAL.

British Legation,
Tegucigalpa, Honduras,

E 3

No. 25.

E 2507 12th March, 1947.

Sir,

26 MAR

E 1787/8431

With reference to my telegram No. 9 of 26th February, 1947, regarding S/S "Ulua", engaged in carrying illegal Jewish immigrants to Palestine, I have the honour to report that I have been informed verbally by the Minister for Foreign Affairs that in future no provisional certificates of ships' registry may be granted by Honduran consular officers at United States ports without reference to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs here, and that instructions to this effect have been issued to the consular officers through the Ambassador in Washington. This measure has been adopted in order to ensure greater control over the issue of provisional certificates of registry, which previously were issued after approval by the Ministry of War, Marine and Aviation only.

2. The Minister for Foreign Affairs would also like to have the issue of provisional certificates of registry suspended until the termination of the illegal transportation of Jews to Palestine; but the Minister of War, Marine and Aviation has not yet agreed to his suggestion.

3. Further developments in this connexion will be reported in due course.

4. I am sending a copy of this despatch to His Majesty's Ambassador at Washington and to His Majesty's Consul General at New York, together with a copy of my telegram No. 9 of 26th February, for their information.

I have the honour to be,
with the highest respect,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble Servant,

Russ F. Tomlinson

H.M. Principal Secretary of State
for Foreign Affairs,
&c., &c., &c.,
Foreign Office,
London, S.W. 1.

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Reference: FO 371 / 91840

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F9

E

E 2674

4

PALESTINE

27 MAR

Registry Number } E2674/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Lord Rutherford

Dated Washington

Received in Registry } 1823

25 March 1947
28 - -

Legal Immigrant Ships, President Warfield

Refer W 200 tel 1793 (E 2596/84/31).
States instruction received from Honduranan ship
to effect that owners of 'P W' are to be told
that if they take on immigrants or entry of ship
will be taken away. Honduranan B.P. New York. is so informing
owners but require of them did not proceed to
Philadelphia to take away their papers.

Last Paper.

E 2597

(Minutes.)

See action on E2644/G.

References.

We have asked the Legation
to press the Honduran Govt. to
cancel this vessels registry.

(Print.)

Mr Beeley H.B. 27/3

13 Mar. 29

(How disposed of.)

8/ Higham
Bladwick
Dodd's
Smith
(on E2596)
✓ Mar. 28

(Action completed.)

HCB/4

(Index.)

HCB/4

Next Paper.

E 2680

32008 F.O.P.

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1			
				2	

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61840

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel D. 10.25 p.m. 25th March, 1947.
No. 1823
25th March, 1947. R. 6.15 a.m. 26th March, 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem
Tegucigalpa

0 0 0 0

SECRET

My telegram No. 1793.

E 2500
E 2674
27 MAR

Illegal emigration into Palestine.

Honduran Embassy now informs us that instructions have been just received from the Honduran Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the effect that owners of the "President Warfield" are to be told that if the ship takes on refugees or enters waters blockaded by the British administration in Palestine, Honduras registry will automatically be cancelled. Acting Honduran Consul General at New York is so informing owners but because of these instructions did not again proceed to Philadelphia to remove papers here [sic].

2. This is obviously not very satisfactory since ships can proceed empty with Honduras registry to some European destination. She may then succeed in taking on refugees clandestinely and re-appear as did the "Abril" in Palestinian waters. The removal of her Honduras registry at that moment would not contribute to prevention of sailings from the United States of America nor to the aim of lessening the burden on Cyprus. Honduran Embassy indicate that as a result of these instructions they could do no more in Washington and that the matter must be taken up with the Honduran Government if His Majesty's Government desire further action.

3. Ship is still in Philadelphia but is likely to be ready to sail at any time. Consul General will report her movements to us.

MAR 27 1947
MAR 27 1947

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference: **FO 371 / 51840**

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50

1947

E

E 2680

b

27 MAR

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 2680/84/31

FROM

E. O. Morales

No.

Panama Legation
CA-524 EHM

Dated

to Mr. Beith

Received in Registry

25 March 1947

27

Illegal Immigrant Ships.
Refer F.O. letter (E 2010/84/31) of Mch 10.

Give further particulars of Panamanian
ships, suspected of being used for illegal
immigrant traffic.

Last Paper.

E 2674

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) Mr. Dadds, Activity.

Mr. Chadwick, M.I.5.

Mr. Higham, C.O.

March 28

(Minutes.)

Copies

Co. }
Adm. }
M.I.5 }
... }

usual names

This is satisfactory. Sr. Morales
later told me he was doubtful
of the "Anel" after all: I have
asked M.I.5 to substantiate their
evidence if possible.

NA Dept.

CV 3/4

12 Mar 28

(Action completed.)

[Signature]
2/27/48

(Index.)

[Signature]
2/27/48

Next Paper.

Reply to Morales
on E 2644/48/9.

2699

1
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3
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5
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Reference:

FO

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61840

LEGACION DE PANAMÁ

No. CL-524
EAM

3C please
center K 7
E 2680

London, 25th March, 1947

27 MAR

Dear Mr. Beith,

I am very grateful for your letter No. E 2010/84/31 dated the 10th March, and in reply I wish to say the following:

S/S SAN EUSEBIO- Thanks to the information given by the Foreign Office, I was able to instruct the Panamanian Consul at Copenhagen, and prevent the sailing of this vessel.-

S/S SAN FILIPO:- Luck turned the other way here and our Consul was unable to prevent this vessel from leaving, partly because of the lack of cooperation of the Port Authorities at Marseille.- This vessel, having been struck off the Panamanian registry, is flying the Panamanian flag illegally.- Its whereabouts at present are not known. The British Navy are most welcome, if they search her, to treat her as a pirate.

S/SSHOREHAM & S/S LOWESTOFT:- These vessels have in fact been purchased by a Panamanian shipping company but they have yet to be placed under the Panama Flag. They will not be, in view of the fact that your information has been substantiated by the results of my own personal investigation. I have informed the Panamanian Authorities accordingly, just in case the Owners seek to obtain the flag at some other Panamanian Consulate.

X S/S ANAL:- This is a cargo vessel at present undergoing repairs at Marseille.- There is nothing to indicate that your suspicions are correct. I would, in this case, need further proof before being able to take some sort of action.

S/S SNAPDRAGON:- First class people, good reputation, suspicions definitely unfounded.- However, I would welcome further information based on facts.

S/S LACONIA:- Same as the previous ship.

J.G.S. Beith, Esq.,
Foreign Office,
S.W.1

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61840

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LEGACION DE PANAMÁ

8

S/S DEMELIOS:- This vessel was reportedly at Antwerp and believed to be controled by Captain John Eliadis who tried to secure the Panamanian flag. Our Consul there, duly warned by me -thanks to your timely information- refused to even consider the application. The Jentral Panamanian Authorities have also been duly informed.

S/S SAN SPYRIDON:- This vessel is owned by a panamanian shipping company also under the control of the said John Eliadis. It is at present flying the Sewdish Flag anf will not receive panamanian nationality.

Needless to say that I would welcome further information in respect of Panamanian vessels and I can promise you the unconditional cooperation of this office.

My present status of Chargé d'Affaires a.i. is of course only temporary. As Counsellor of Legation "de carriere", I am in charge of the Consulate General in London. In future, in order to avoid confusion, kindly address your letters thus: Señor Eusebio A. Morales, Consul General for Panama, 123, Warnford Court, Throgmorton Street, London, E.C.2

Yours sincerely,
E. Morales

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Class *371*

Piece *61840*

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E2699/84/31

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61840

172

E

E 2734

31 MAR

9

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 2734/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Lord Gumpel
Washington

Dated

Received in Registry

1920
29 March 1920
31

Illegal Immigrant Ship. "President Warfield"
Rpt. W. Fox (E 2674/84/21) b.g. Philadelphia
has received information that "President Warfield" is
being cleared 29/mar. ostensibly for 116 arrivals
though it is understood that she will stop
first at AZORES to fuel. Has general cargo
consisting supposedly of stores and deck cargo of
oil in barrel. Crew of 124, 37, Teut. 7 inc
milit. American.

Last Paper.

2699

References.

(Minutes.)

Copy Col
Arby. } usual names
M15 }

As regards our request to
the Govt. of Honduras (see E2674
a minute), I have had
the tel. to Tegucigalpa
repeated to Washington

M Beety
103.1/4

13 Mar 30

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/ Higham
Dodds
Smith
Chadwick

April 1
Tel Lisbon 243 April 3
8/ Higham, Chadwick,
Dodds, Smith, Mitchell K.O.F.P.
April 8

(Action completed)

28/3/4

(Index.)

29/4/4

Next Paper.

E 2789

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

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Cypher/OTP.

E. 2734

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 1.

10

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Lord Inverchapel.
No. 1920.
29th March 1947.

D. 6.15 p.m. 29th March 1947.
R. 12.55 a.m. 30th March 1947.

Repeated to Jerusalem.

W:W:W:W:W

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

E 2674/84/31

My telegram No.1823. Illegal immigration into Palestine.

His Majesty's Consul-General Philadelphia has now received reliable [? gp. omitted] that "President Warfield" is being cleared through Customs today, ostensibly for Marseilles, though it is understood that she will stop first at the Azores (or possibly Funchal) to fuel. She has a general cargo consisting mostly of stores and a deck cargo of oil in barrel. Of the crew of 44, 37 are Jews. The remaining 7, including the Master who is an American citizen, are to be replaced in Marseilles and repatriated. She is still flying the Honduran flag.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat.]

11 MAR 1947
RECEIVED
SECRETARY OF STATE

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61840

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry No. *E*

Draft.

Top Secret
Secret.
Confidential
Restricted
Open

Telegram. to *Lisbon*
No. *2H3*
(Date) *Apr. 3*

Repeat to:—

~~En Clair.~~
~~Code.~~
Cypher.

Distribution:—

Depl. no. 2

Copies to:—

M.I. 5

Admiralty (Mr. Dods)

C.O. (Mr. Higham) hands.

M. of Fuel and Power (Mr. Mitchell)

OUT FILE

F. O. *11*

Immediate

~~Secret~~

Despatched 2200 M.

We have information that S.S. PRESIDENT WARFIELD, belonging to the WESTON Trading Company, New York, and under Honduranian registry, left Philadelphia on the 29th March with the object of picking up Jewish illegal immigrants at a Mediterranean port and carrying them to Palestine.

2. We are also informed that this ship may call at the Azores for oil bunkers. We understand that bunkering facilities there are in Portuguese hands.

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Reference:

FO

371

61840

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12

3. Unless you see objections,
please ask the Portuguese
Government to take steps to
prevent the bunkering of the
President Warfield if it should
attempt to re-fuel at the Azores.

4. For your information,
British oil companies are
cooperating in the denial of
fuel to ships engaged in this
traffic, and we are urgently
considering an approach to
other governments.

RQ
V 3/4

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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FO

371

61840

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E.
SECRET.
CYPHER/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO:2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO LISBON.

No:243.

3rd April 1947

D.2.20 a.m. 4th April 1947.

4 4 4 4

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

We have information that S.S. President Warfield, belonging to the Weston Trading Company, New York, and under Honduranean registry, left Philadelphia on the 29th March with the object of picking up Jewish illegal immigrants at a Mediterranean port and carrying them to Palestine.

2. We are also informed that this ship may call at the Azores for oil bunkers. We understand that bunkering facilities there are in Portuguese hands.

3. Unless you see objection, please ask the Portuguese Government to take steps to prevent the bunkering of the President Warfield if it should attempt to re-fuel at the Azores.

4. For your information, British oil companies are co-operating in the denial of fuel to ships engaged in this traffic, and we are urgently considering an approach to other Governments.

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Piece *61840*

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E 2789 / 84 / 31
E 2790

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

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FO

371 / 61840

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55

E

E 2836

14

2 APR

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 2836/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Lord Inverchapel

Dated

Washington

Received in Registry

1926

31. 9th. 1926

2 April

Illegal Immigrant Ship, President Warfield
Refers W. J. to tel 1823 (E 26714/84/21). Transmits full text of letter from W. B. Ash, President of Weston Trading Coy, certifying that the President Warfield will not be used for Jewish Illegal Immigration.

Last Paper.

E 2790

(Minutes.)

Checked 11/4
N. American Dept.

1873. 4/4

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/ dig lam. 80
Bladenick nrs.
Dodd's Admty
Smith
April 2

(Action completed.)

G. M. H. / 4

(Index.)

4/2/28

Next Paper.

E 2854

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1	1	1	1	1	1

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References: FO 371 / 61840

15

E

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO.1.

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Lord Inverchapel
No. 1926

D. 1.05 p.m. 31st March 1947
R. 7.55 p.m. 31st March 1947

31st March 1947
Repeated to Jerusalem

SECRET

cccccc

E2674

154/3
E 2836
2 APR

My telegram No. 1823.

Illegal immigration into Palestine.

Honduranean Embassy have sent to me in the original a letter from William C. Ash, President of Weston Trading Company, New York, to the Honduranean Consul-General in New York which reads:

"This is to certify that s.s. President Warfield of 1814 gross tons which is this day being registered by you and will depart from Mediterranean ports for trading in the Mediterranean Sea and adjacent waters will not be used for any illegal commercial trade and will not be used for running the British blockade into Palestine for the purpose of carrying refugees".

2. While this affidavit covers illegal use by the present owners there appears to be a danger that the ship might be sold by them to another firm which would then use her for such purposes. I am enquiring [? gp. omitted ? from] Honduranean Ambassador whether such a sale would be permissible while the ship is under Honduranean registry.

[Copy sent to Middle East Secretariat]



1	2	3	4	5	6
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Group Fo

Class 371

Piece 61840

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E2893/84/31

1	2	3	4	5	6
		1		2	

Reference:

FO

371 / 61840

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58

E

E 2933
8 APR

16

1947

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E2933/84/31

FROM

Embassy

No.

Washington

Dated

806

Received in Registry

54/18/47

21. 11/19/47
8 APR

S.S. 'PRESIDENT WARFIELD'

Encloses copies of correspondence with
plandanian (ambassador) re
use of President Warfield for Jewish
illegal immigration.

Last Paper.

2893

(Minutes.)

Copy of M/15 } usual names

References.

Mr Beelen H3 7/4
NA Dept.

15 Apr. 47

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

of Higham Co.
detent. n. 15.
✓ April 9

(Action completed.)

26 Nov 47

(Index.)

26/11/47

Next Paper.

E2948

1
2
3
4
5
6

Reference:

FO 371 / 61840

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806

84/58/47

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Washington presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British Embassy
Washington, D. C.

..... 31st March. 1947..

E 2933

6 APR

Reference to previous correspondence:

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Copies of correspondence with Ambassador of Honduras.	S.S. "PRESIDENT WARFIELD"

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Reference:

FO

371

61840

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18

British Embassy
Washington, D.C.

31st March 1947

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's letter of the 21st March concerning the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD", in which you were good enough to enclose an affidavit from the President of the Weston Trading Company certifying that the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" will not be used by this company for any illegal commercial trade or for running the British blockade into Palestine for the purpose of carrying refugees.

I should be most grateful if Your Excellency would inform me whether it would be permissible under Honduran law for the present owners to sell the vessel to another firm while the ship is flying the Honduran flag. This information would be useful because there appears to be a

/loophole

His Excellency
Señor Dr. Don J.R. Cáceres,
Ambassador E. & P. of Honduras,
Washington, D.C.

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61840

loophole in the present affidavit where it states that the ship will not engage in illegal activities while owned by the Weston Trading Company itself. The latest information I have about the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" is that she is still flying the Honduran flag.

I am most grateful to Your Excellency for the help which you and your Embassy have given to us in this question. It is most important that the present difficult situation in Palestine should not be further complicated by the arrival of illegal immigrants, especially at a time when the whole problem is to be submitted to the United Nations for a decision on the future of Palestine based upon the strict merits of the case. Any action by your Government in preventing the use of ships carrying Honduran registry for this purpose will, I know, be greatly appreciated by my Government.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Excellency's most obedient,

humble Servant,

(Signed) INVERCHAPEL

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371 / 91840

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20

EMBAJADA DE HONDURAS
Washington, D.C.

March 21, 1947

Ref: 84/28/47

Your Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge receipt of Your Excellency's note dated March 14, 1947, concerning the ship, "PRESIDENT WARFIELD". After some investigation I am not sure if this ship continues under the Honduran flag.

Furthermore, please be sure, Your Excellency, that my government is ready to cooperate in the full measure in order to avoid incidents like that which occurred to the ship "ABRIL".

I have sent to my government the information contained in Your Excellency's note and, as soon as I receive an answer, I shall communicate with Your Excellency again.

I enclose herewith the affidavit of William C. Ash, President, Weston Trading Company, 24 Stone Street, New York 4, New York, certifying that the "PRESIDENT WARFIELD" will not be used by the Weston Trading Company for any illegal commercial trade and will not be used for running the British blockade into Palestine for the purpose of carrying refugees.

If you have ascertained the change of the flag of this ship, please let me know.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to Your Excellency the testimony of my highest consideration.

JULIAN R. CACERES

His Excellency Lord Inverchapel
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotenciary
of Great Britain,
Washington, D.C.

1	2	3	4	5	6

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FO

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COPY

21

WESTON TRADING COMPANY
24 Stone Street
New York 4, N.Y.

21 January 1947

Consul General,
Republic of Honduras,
17 Battery Place,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir,

This is to certify that the S S PRESIDENT WARFIELD of 1814 gross tons which is this day being registered by you and will depart for Mediterranean ports for trading in the Mediterranean Sea and adjacent waters will not be used by the Weston Trading Company for any illegal commercial trade and will not be used for running the British blockade into Palestine for the purpose of carrying refugees.

Thanking you for your co-operation and assistance, I am,

Very truly yours,

WESTON TRADING COMPANY

(Signed) WILLIAM C. ASH
President

Personally appeared before me William C. Ash who being deposed testifies that this is a true statement to the best of his knowledge and belief, and that the above signature is genuine.

January 21, 1947
(Signed) LEO KAHN
Notary Public in the
State of New York

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371

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1947

PALESTINE

E 2948

9 APR

Registry Number

E2948/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Lis. O. O'Malley

Dated

Lisbon

Received in Registry

260
9 April 1947
9 - -

S.S. 'PRESIDENT WARFIELD'

Re Lisbon tel 253 (E2893/84/31) stated
Min. of Foreign Affairs will do what they
can to comply with request, but fear that
it will be difficult to find valid excuse
for detaining ship. Ship has arrived
at AZORES, to load oil. (encl)

Last Paper.

2933

References.

2934/84/31

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

✓ Higham. P.O.
Mitchell M/FP
~~that~~
Robert M.15
Garvey.
Dodd Adanty
Smith ~

amended copy
as above. April 9.
April 11

(Action completed.)

G.P. 7/6/49/4

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

2960

(Minutes.)

Copy also sent to Mr Mitchell, F.M.P.
He must await the corrected
version

Mr Becking 11.3.47

15 Apr. 9

1	2	3	4	5	6
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Reference: FO 371/61840

23

E 2948

E

Cypher/OTP.

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM LISBON TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir O. O'Malley. D. 12.17 p.m. 8th April, 1947.
No. 260. R. 2.50 p.m. 8th April, 1947.
8th April, 1947.

IMPORTANT.

SECRET.

E 2893/84/31

My telegram No. 253. S.S. President Warfield.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs will do what they can to comply with our request but fear that it will be difficult to find valid excuse for detaining the ship.

2. [Grps. undec.] paragraph 1 of my telegram under reference states that the ship has now arrived in the Azores. His firm is bound by previous contracts to supply some oil but he will [grps. undec.].

[Note by Communications Department:
Repetition of undecypherable groups is being obtained]



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Reference: FO 371 / 61840

E 2948/84/31.

24

* AMENDED COPY *

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2

FROM LISBON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir O. O'Malley
No. 260

D. 12.17 p.m. 8th April, 1947.

8th April, 1947.

R. 2.50 p.m. 8th April, 1947.

MMMMMM

IMPORTANT
SECRET

My telegram No. 253 - S.S. "President Warfield".

Ministry of Foreign Affairs will do what they can to comply with our request but fear that it will be difficult to find valid excuse for detaining the ship.

2. * Person mentioned in * paragraph 1 of my telegram under reference states that the ship has now arrived in the Azores. His firm is bound by previous contracts to supply some oil but he will * try to restrict the quantity to the minimum * .

*Circulate to recipients of
original version, please*

13. Apr. 10

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Reference: **FO 371 / 61840**



60

E

E 2960

25

1947

PALESTINE

9 APR

Registry Number

E2960/84/31

FROM

Lord Inverchapel
Washington.

No.

827

Dated

84/65/47

Received in Registry

3 April, 1947

9 April, 1947

Illegal Immigrant Ships

Transmits copies of letter from Panamanian Embassy in Washington to MR. J. BALFOUR and reply from Lord Inverchapel dated 27th. March and 3rd. April, respectively, concerning illegal activities of Panamanian ships named "BALBOA", "COLON", "CADIO."

Last Paper.

2948

(Minutes.)

Copy

CO

M15

usual names

References.

Dept. 14

13. Apr. 9

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8) C.O. (Mr. Higham)
M.I.5. (Mr. Scherr)
✓ April 10

(Action completed.)

J.P.M. 7/4

(Index)

M15
4/8/47

Next Paper.

E2991

1
2
3
4
5
6

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Reference: FO 371/61840

No. 827 / 84/65/47

E.

26

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Washington presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

British Embassy
Washington, D. C.

E 2960
9 APR
3rd April 1947

Reference to previous correspondence:

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Copies of correspondence with Panamanian Embassy Washington, 27th March and 3rd April.	SHIPS "BALBOA", "COLON" and "CADIO"

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61840

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COPY
TRANSLATION

PANAMANIAN EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON 8, D.C.

E-261

27th March 1947.

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to Your Excellency's letter of the 24th February last in order to pass on to you the following communication dated the 22nd March which I have received from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of my country:

"I have pleasure in acknowledging the receipt of your communication A-196 of 28th February last about a complaint formulated by the British Embassy in Washington in protest against the illegal activities of the Panamanian ships named "BALBOA" (previously "NORSYD"), "COLON" (previously "BEAUHARNOIS") and "CADIO" (previously "OWEN SOUND").

"On this point I wish to inform you that this Department remitted the matter to the Ministry of Finance, whose concern it is, and their reply is that the local law firm of Lombardi & Icaza, to which the British Embassy refers, has stated that it has nothing to do with the activities of these ships and equally has no relations with the owners of the said vessels.

"I should be glad if you would so inform the British Embassy and tell them in addition that the Ministry of Finance has ordered an investigation to be made into the trade in which the ships complained of are engaged, and that should sufficient proof of their illegal commercial activities be discovered, the Ministry will then cancel their papers".

Accept, Excellency, the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed) E.J. CHEVALIER

Charge d'Affaires a.i.

His Excellency
John Balfour,
E. & M. P. of Great Britain
3100 Massachusetts Ave.
Washington, D.C.

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61840

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27A

British Embassy,
Washington, D.C.

3rd April 1947

Ref: 84/65/47

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter E-261 of the 27th March to Sir John Balfour, in which you were so good as to communicate to him the text of a letter from the Panamanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerning the ships "BALBOA" (previously "NORSYD"), "COLON" (previously "BEAUHARNOIS") and "CADIO" (previously "OWEN SOUND").

I am grateful for the steps which you have been kind enough to take in connexion with this case and I know that H.M. Government in the U.K. will appreciate the action of the Panamanian Ministry of Finance. I should welcome any information bearing upon the implication of these vessels in the transport of illegal immigrants to Palestine which may come to light as a result of the enquiries which the Ministry of Finance is making.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
your most obedient, humble servant,

Senor Don E.J. Chevalier,
Charge d'Affaires a.i.,
Panamanian Embassy,
Washington, D.C.

(Signed) INVERCHAPPEL

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Reference:

FO 371 / 61840

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61

E

Box 294

E 2991

28

1947

PALESTINE

10 APR

Registry Number

E2991/84/31

FROM

British Legation

No.

Panama

Dated

to 90.0. Wilson Young

Received in Registry

27. March 1947

10 April

Illegal Immigrant Ships.

Transmits copy of letter from Legation to Sir J. Halford of March 27, 1947, stating that letter had been received from Messrs. Foster & Co., Panama, regarding allegations contained in Embassy note to Panama dated in London 84/19/47 of Feb 24.

Last Paper.

2960.

(Minutes.)

References.

2867/48/9.

3378/48/9

letter to M.S., referring also to E2225. When resubmit also
13 Apr. 14
15 Apr 18

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Mr. W. J. Baker

Mr. Deitch's Cong. April 17

Copy, telegram

✓ April 17

(Action completed.)

[Signature]

(Index.)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

2995

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Reference: FO 371/61840

Mr. I.A.D. Wilson Young:
North American Department:
Foreign Office.

enter
F 28A



E 2991

10 APR

With the Compliments

of the

BRITISH MINISTER

at

PANAMA

PANAMA

March 27th 1947

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61840

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29

BRITISH LEGATION,

PANAMA.

March 27th 1947.

15/176/47

We have been sent by Messrs. Carlos Icaza A., of this town, a copy of their indignant letter to Lord Inverchapel of March 13th, protesting against allegations contained in your note of February 24th last (84/19/47) to the Panamanian Ambassador in Washington in regard to their alleged ownership of vessels transporting illegal emigrants to Palestine.

It is not clear to us why these matters are dealt with by your Embassy directly with the Panamanian Embassy in Washington, rather than, as one would naturally expect, through this Legation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but no doubt there is good and sufficient reason for this procedure.

Lombardi and Icaza are a well-known and reputable firm of lawyers, part of whose business is to act as local representatives of foreign shipping companies who register ships under the Panamanian flag. They are not themselves shipowners.

I understand that last October Hadow spoke to Alfaro in New York about this matter. Ellison, then Chargé d'Affaires here, after a mild protest at being left out of the picture, raised the matter with the Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Sucre, who told him that Lombardi and Icaza were not a firm to be mixed up in any shady transaction. Then came your letter of February 24th to Dr. Vallarino, based on what appears to be totally incorrect information (though here we are subject to correction).

I am sure that if the Embassy has been misinformed, it will retract the allegations about this firm (with whom we have hitherto been on excellent terms). This whole question seems to be in something of a muddle. Several of the so-called Panamanian ships turn out eventually to have Hondurian registration, and we have been receiving cypher telegrams from you which I have asked Allen to discontinue sending us other than by bag in view of the expense and the extra work entailed for our cypher officer in matters which do not (at present) directly concern us.

Enquiries have been made here about Arias and Arias, mentioned in Icaza's letter to Dr. Alfaro as Agents to Caribbean Atlantic Shipping Corporation. They are Dr. Harmodio Arias, owner of the Panama American (a bilingual daily which has recently shown signs of becoming friendly to us), and his son. They originally carried out the registration of the NORSYD and BEAUHARNOIS, but their name no longer appears, being replaced by that of Illueca. Arias and Arias have no interest in the ships, except as lawyers who allow their address to be used for the usual fee.

On the other hand, Roberto Arias (the son) is in partnership with Illuecas.

There would appear to be good grounds for approaching the Panamanian authorities and suggesting that, whereas there seems to be nothing at all against the lawyers concerned, the Caribbean Atlantic Shipping Corporation ought to be refused permission to fly the Panamanian flag, in order to stop their illegal activities.

Sir John Balfour, K.C.M.G.,
British Embassy,
Washington, D.C.

/Meanwhile

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Reference: FO 371/51840

Cont. of 15/176/47

30

Meanwhile, I suggest that we consider the practicability of changing the channel of communication on these matters from Washington to Panama, where our information can be more easily checked. I am therefore sending a copy of this letter to Ian Wilson-Young.

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Reference:

FO

371

61840

OUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

14th April, 1947.

15
31

Draft

Secret

17

My dear Scherff

I write to confirm our telephone conversation in which I asked you for your department's observations on Washington Chancery letter No. 4421/3/47 of March 6th, which was sent to Robertson on March 18th, about the use of ex-Canadian corvettes in the illegal immigration traffic, and in particular the "CADIO".

*Copy to
(Mr Higham)*

In this connexion I send you ^{herewith} a copy of a letter from our Minister at Panama to Balfour at Washington dated March 27th, which suggests that some of the information used by the Embassy at Washington has not been accurate. At the same time, as I told you, the Colonial Office have received a telegram from Jerusalem saying that the American Consul-General there (in charge of Panamanian interests) has complained that allegations made against the ~~Cardinal~~ "Cadio" were unfounded.

There seems to be a certain amount of confusion ~~about in this connexion with~~ this vessel. Perhaps you may be able to clear it up?

I am sending a copy of this letter to Higham at the CO. 13 April 47

David Scherff Esq.,
M.I.5.
C/O Room 17.

Yours Sincerely

(Sgd.) John Birch

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Reference:

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OUT FILE

32

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1.

17th April, 1947.

(E. 2991/84/31)

SECRET.

My dear Scherr,

I write to confirm our telephone conversation in which I asked you for your department's observations on Washington Chancery letter No. 4421/3/47 of 6th March, which was sent to Robertson on 18th March, about the use of ex-Canadian corvettes in the illegal immigration traffic and in particular the "CADIO".

In this connexion I send you herewith a copy of a letter from our Minister at Panama to Balfour at Washington dated 27th March, which suggests that some of the information used by the Embassy at Washington has not been accurate. At the same time, as I told you, the Colonial Office have received a telegram from Jerusalem saying that the American Consul-General there (in charge of Panamanian interests) has complained that allegations made against the "Cadio" were unfounded.

There seems to be a certain amount of confusion about this vessel. Perhaps you may be able to clear it up?

I am sending a copy of this letter to Higham at the Colonial Office.

Yours Sincerely

(Sgd) John Birch

David Scherr, Esq.,
M.I.5.,
C/O Room 17.

1	2	3	4	5	6

Reference:

FO

371

51840

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62

1547

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E 2995 33

10 APR

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 2995/84/31

FROM

Embassy

No.

Washington

Dated

4103/124/47

Received in Registry

31, Mar 1947
10 April 1947

Illegal Immigration, Yugoslavia, U.N.R.R.A
Refer F.O. 11818 (E12246/7656/31) Supplies.
Encloses copy of reply received from
U.N.R.R.A re supply of food to
illegal immigrants at Port of Bakar.
Asks whether further action necessary.

Last Paper.

2991

(Minutes.)

Copy to Chancery, Belgrade,
with a copy of tel. no. 11818
to Washington on E12246

13 Apr. 10

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

E. Depts, Comps.

~~3~~ Chancery

Belgrade
with copy of F.O.
of 11818 s
w food.
April 12

(Action completed.)

G.C. 11/24

(Index)

11/24

Next Paper.

3006

1	2	3	4	5	6

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Reference: FO 371/61840

E 34

E 2995
10 APR

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

Ref: 4103/124/47

31st March, 1947.

Dear Department:

With reference to your telegram No. 11818 of December 21st, 1946, we enclose a copy of the reply received from the acting Director-General of UNRRA. Do you want us to take any further action on this matter?

E-
12246/768/31

Yours ever,

GENERAL ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT.



Refugee Department,
Foreign Office,
LONDON, S.W.1.

EJWB:im

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Reference: **FO 371/61840**

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35

C
O
P
Y

UNITED NATIONS RELIEF AND
REHABILITATION ADMINISTRATION

1344 Connecticut Avenue,
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

27th March, 1947.

Dear Mr. Jackling:

Reference is made to Mr. Makins' and your previous correspondence with the Director General, particularly to Mr. Makins' letter of 23rd December, 1946, on the subject of UNRRA supplies alleged to have been made available to Jewish immigrants to Palestine at the port of Bakar.

As indicated in the Director General's letter to Mr. Makins of 10th January, the Administration has requested information on this matter from our Mission In Yugoslavia.

A cabled report has now been received from them. It states that, according to a reply from the Yugoslav government, all refugees passing through Yugoslavia are being supplied with food by the Yugoslav Red Cross, which has obtained such food as gifts from various national and international organizations, exclusive of UNRRA contributed supplies.

The government further states that no exceptions are made to this rule.

Sincerely yours,

(sgd.) Alfred G. Katzin
Deputy Director General and
Chief Executive Officer.

Mr. Roger W. Jackling,
British Embassy,
3100 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61840

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63

1947

E

E 3006 36

10 APR

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 3006/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Lt. O. O'Walley
Lisbon

Dated

Received in Registry

262,
9 April 1947
10

S.S. President Warfield:

Refer Lisbon tel 260 (E 2948/84/31) State
from delayed ship and supplied 1000 barrels
of oil instead of 2000. Ship will probably
sail early April 9. with provision of
1600 barrels of oil aboard. Fuel consumption
stated to be 200 barrels per day at 10
knots.

Last Paper.

2995-

(Minutes.)

M Beely 223.17/4

13 Apr. 10

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

8/ Higham S.O.
Akers M.I.S.
Mitchell M/F.P.
Farrey
Dodds Admty
Smith
✓ April 10

(Action completed.)

Law 11/4

(Index.)

W 9/48

Next Paper.

3007

32008 F.O.P.

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Reference: FO 371/61840

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Cypher/OTP.

E 3008
10 APR

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

37

FROM LISBON TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Sir O. O'Malley.
No. 262.
9th April 1947.

D. 11.35 a.m. 9th April 1947.
R. 2.15 p.m. 9th April 1947.

W:W:W:W:W

IMMEDIATE.

SECRET.

My telegram No. 260.

E 2948/84/71

S.S. President Warfield.

Firm delayed ship and supplied one thousand barrels of oil instead of [gp. undec. ? two thousand] originally requested. Ship will probably sail early April 9th (repeat April 9th) [gps. undec. ? with proportion] of 1,600 (repeat 1,600) barrels of oil on board. Fuel consumption stated to be 200 (repeat 200) barrels per diem at 10 knots.

2. His Majesty's Consul Ponta Delgada will confirm time of sailing repeating to you with any information he can get about his destination.

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Reference:

FO

371

61840

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APR 10 1947

64

E

E 3007

38

1947

APR

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E3007/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Re: O. O'Malley

Dated

Re: Lisbon

Received in Registry

26th

9 April 1947

10 - - -

S. J. ~~President~~ Warfield

Refer Lisbon tel 262 (E3006/84/31) following from H. M. Bondel Ponta Delgada. Vessel sailed 8.30 Greenwich, 9/4. Embarked 1000 barrel oil, 110 tons water, no other stores. Master telegraphed his arrival stating he had sufficient oil to reach Morakilles.

Last Paper.

3006

(Minutes.)

M. Beeby ¹⁹⁴³ 194

13 Apr. 10

References.

In P.P. Ponta Delgada tel 17 of 9/4

12 Apr 12

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

- 8, Higham B.O.
- Akers MIS
- Mitchell M/S.P.
- Garvey
- Dodds Admty
- Smith

In P.P. Rome tel 1016 3/5

Tel. sent, replying ~~minutes~~ to this question inter. dia

13 May 6

In P.P. F.O. Min. M. Beeby 2/5.

13 May 10

✓ April 10

P.T.O

(Action completed.)

22/11/4

(Index)

16/1/48

Next Paper.

E 3045

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2
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Reference: FO 371/61840

2d, Rome. ●●
928
30, April

4. Higham
Dodd
Smith
Scher
Gandy May 2

2d Rome.
927
20, April
Rtd Aches 955
Belgrade 974

4. Higham
Dodd
Smith
Scher
Gandy.
May 2

Tel) Rome 945
May 2.

8) Higham C.O.
Dodd / Admty.
Smith /

Scher N.I.S.
Mr. Brey.
Mr. Price, Cab. Off.

May 7

2d Rome 962.
May 5.

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Reference: **FO** 371 / 61840

Minutes.

40

pw

Private Secretary

At this morning's meeting with Ministers on the question of the diversion of Jewish illegal immigrant vessels to Cyprus, the Secretary of State expressed the wish to send a personal telegram to Rome about the "President Warfield". This ship is reported to have arrived at Genoa and is said to be capable of taking 5,000 passengers. I attach a draft telegram, referring to the tels. already sent

J. G. S. Beith
(J. G. S. Beith)

2nd May, 1947.

Telegram Despatched

R. C. McAlpine
2/5

B. May 3

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

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Reference:

FO

371

61840

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41

E 3007
APR

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM LISBON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir O. O'Malley
No. 264

D. 6.09 p.m. 9th April 1947
R. 7.50 p.m. 9th April 1947

9th April 1947

c c c c c c

IMMEDIATE
SECRET

My telegram No. 262.

Supplies of s.s. President Warfield.

Following telegram received from His Majesty's Consul,
Ponta Delgada.

[Begins]

Vessel sailed 9.30 Greenwich today. Embarked 1000
barrels of oil, 110 tons of water, no (repeat no) other
stores.

2. Master telegraphed his owners stating he had now
sufficient oil to reach Marseilles.

[Ends]

APR
S
M

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Reference: FO 371 / 61840

E 3007/84/71.

INDEXED

Gypher/OTP

11 APR 1947

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2

FROM PONTA DELGADA TO LISBON

Acting British Consul

No. 17

D. 9.15 a.m. 10th April, 1947

9th April, 1947

R. 4.20 p.m. 10th April, 1947

Repeated to FOREIGN OFFICE NO. 18

addddd

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

My telegram No. 16 and your telegram No. 11.

S.S. President Warfield sailed 9.30 Greenwich
[?grp. omd: ?meantime] today. Embarked 1,000 barrels
of oil 110 tons of water no (repeat no) other stores.

2. Master telegraphed his owners stating that he
had now sufficient oil to reach Marseilles.

[Note by Communications Department:

This message was repeated to Foreign Office
by Ponta Delgada on request of Lisbon]

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Reference:

FO 371/61840



Registry
No.

OUT FILE

Date 30/4

43

Despatched 8.50/—

Draft

IMMEDIATE

Rome 927
April 30th

Repeat Athens 955
974. Belgrade
(no priority)

Cyprus

depl. no. 2

Copies Adly /
Co (usual
MIS) (names)

Two suspect illegal
immigrant vessels "PRESIDENT
WARFIELD" and "ANAL"

~~have~~ have left =
MARSEILLES
~~French port~~ and either may
attempt to load Jews in

Italy. First named vessel
is reported to have a
Capacity of up to 5000
and is the more likely
to reach Italy first.

Transfer of immigrants
is likely to take place
from

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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Reference:

FO

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61840

44

from small vessels off the
shore.

2. Please warn the Italian
authorities and ask them
to exert all possible
vigilance. ANAL is
reported to have put
into Sète after leaving
Marseilles and may
fill up completely there
but President Warfield
appears to have left
France in ballast.

JB Apr. 30

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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61840

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45
OUT FILE

CYPHER/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ROME

No. 927.

D: 8.50 p.m. 30th April, 1947.

30th April, 1947.

Repeated to: Athens No. 955,
Belgrade No. 974.

@@@ @@@ @@@

IMMEDIATE

Two suspect illegal immigrant vessels "President Warfield" and "Anal" have left Marseilles and either may attempt to load Jews in Italy. First named vessel is reported to have a capacity of up to 5,000 and is the more likely to reach Italy first. Transfer of immigrants is likely to take place from small vessels off the shore.

2. Please warn the Italian authorities and ask them to exert all possible vigilance. Anal is reported to have put into Sète after leaving Marseilles and may fill up completely there but President Warfield appears to have left France in ballast.

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

OUT FILED

Date 30/4

46

~~Despatched 9/25/~~

Draft

Rome

~~928~~
April 30th
Cyphers

depl. no. 2

Copies

Co. Adm.,
Miss (usual
names)

IMMEDIATE

Illegal immigration.

PRESIDENT WARFIELD

is reported to have arrived
at Genoa. Please take all
possible steps to prevent
embarkation of Jews and
departure of ship either
from Genoa or elsewhere

JB Apr. 30

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Reference:

FO

371

61840

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47

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ROME.

No. 928.

30th April 1947. D. 9.25 p.m. 30th April 1947.

0:0:0:0

IMMEDIATE.

Illegal immigration.

President Warfield is reported to have arrived at Genoa. Please take all possible steps to prevent embarkation of Jews and departure of ship either from Genoa or elsewhere.

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61840

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

J. G. S. B.

Draft.

H. M. Ambassador,
Rome.

Telegram.

No. *945*

Dated *May 2*

Cypher
Cabinet Dist.

Copy to:
Colonial Office
Admiralty
M. I. 5.
(usual names)
Cabinet Offices
(Mr. Murie)

OUT FILE

May, 1947.

Despatched

6.20 P.M.

2/5

IMMEDIATE

My telegrams Nos. *927 and 928*
[of *April 30* : Jewish
illegal immigration].

Following personal from Secretary
of State.

It is of the highest importance,
in view of the present Palestine
situation, to prevent the "President
Warfield" from loading illegal immigrant
Jews and carrying them to Palestine. I
trust that you and our consular repre-
sentatives at Genoa and elsewhere will
take every possible step to ~~immobilise~~
prevent
~~the sailing of~~ *carrying Jews to Palestine*
~~or delay this vessel and to prevent Jews~~
~~from embarking on their way to Palestine~~
2. Please convey a personal message

from me to the Italian Minister for
Foreign Affairs ~~on the subject.~~ *drawing his attention to the*

*very great importance H.M.G. attach to the
discontinuance of the embarkation of illegal
immigrants from Italy, and asking him
to do everything in his power to prevent
the "President Warfield" sailing for Palestine with Jews*

48

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Reference:

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Jess on board.

EB

49

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

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50
OUT FILE

[This telegram is of particular secrecy and should be retained by the authorised recipient and not passed on].

Cypher/OTP

CABINET DISTRIBUTION

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ROME

No. 945.

D. 6.20. p.m. 2nd May 1947.

2nd May 1947.

IMMEDIATE

My telegrams Nos. 927 and 928 [of April 30th: Jewish illegal immigration.]

Following personal from Secretary of State.

It is of the highest importance, in view of the present Palestine situation, to prevent the "President Warfield" from loading illegal immigrant Jews and carrying them to Palestine. I trust that you and our consular representatives at Genoa and elsewhere will take every possible step to prevent the sailing of this vessel carrying Jews to Palestine.

2. Please convey a personal message from me to the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs drawing his attention to the very great importance His Majesty's Government attach to the discontinuance of the embarkation of illegal immigrants from Italy, and asking him to do everything in his power to prevent the "President Warfield" sailing for Palestine with Jews on board.

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51
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Cypher/OTP

15 MAY 1947

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2.

FROM ROME TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir N. Charles
No: 1016
3rd May, 1947.

D. 9. 35 a.m. 3rd May, 1947.
R. 1. 57 p.m. 3rd May, 1947.

11111

IMMEDIATE

Σ 3007 / 24/31

Your telegrams Nos. 927, 928 and 945.

All action taken. Should be grateful to know the source of information given in your telegram No. 928 which has not yet been confirmed by sources on the spot.



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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Registry
No.

OUT FILE

52

Draft.

~~IMMEDIATE~~
~~TOP SECRET~~

Despatched

9.40 p.m. 9/5

Rome

Your telegrams No. 795 and 1016

Telegram.

[of April 9 and May 3: Jewish illegal immigration] ~~N.P.~~ Standing inter-departmental committee has now been set up to co-ordinate action in this matter. I should be grateful for brief report by immediate telegram, for the information of the committee, on the system of liaison between our intelligence representatives, consular representatives and the Embassy leading to action with the Italian authorities. Apart from the "President Warfield", in particular we should be glad to learn what action has been taken in the case of the "Vrissi" which is reported to be ready to sail from Genoa.

2. Statement that "President Warfield" was at Genoa appears to have been based on report that the ship left Marseilles for that destination, but we now learn that she is at Spezzia. You should bear in

No 962.

Dated May 5th
Cypher

Departmental No 2

Mr Grayve/Konarski
Mr Halford

mind/

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Reference:

FO

371 / 61840

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54

Green

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL NO. 2

FROM FOREIGN OFFICE TO ROME

No. 962
5th May, 1947

D. 9.40 p.m. 5th May, 1947

addddd

IMMEDIATE

TOP SECRET

Your telegrams Nos. 795 and 1016 [of 9th April and 3rd May: Jewish illegal immigration].

Standing inter-departmental committee has now been set up to co-ordinate action in this matter. I should be grateful for brief report by immediate telegram, for the information of the committee, on the system of liaison between our intelligence representatives, consular representatives and the Embassy leading to action with the Italian authorities. Apart from the "President Warfield", we should in particular be glad to learn what action has been taken in the case of the "Vrissi" which is reported to be ready to sail from Genoa.

2. Statement that "President Warfield" was at Genoa appears to have been based on report that the ship left Marseilles for that destination, but we now learn that she is at Spezzia. You should bear in mind when pressing the Italian authorities to prevent the departure of ships the provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea, about which you will shortly be receiving a detailed despatch. This should prove a convenient pretext for delaying the movement of vessels known to be implicated in the traffic.

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65

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E 3045 55

11 APR

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E3045/54/31

FROM

CO

No.

General

Dated

Received in Registry

11 April 1947

Illegal Immigrant ship. SUSANNA.
Political Act 69 dated 31/3 Referring
Political Act 541 (E2288/84/31) operative.
extract from report by General Officer Commi-
ssary "SUSANNA" which was ashore near
MEJONH on night of 11/12, 44h.

Last Paper.

3007

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

(Minutes.)

This rather clears the Italians.
Most of the immigrants were
taken on board outside
that country.

Italian Section ✓ 4 15:10

10 Apr. 12

(Action completed.)

J. L. N. 16/4

(Index.)

12/10/48

Next Paper.

3198

1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	2	3	4	5	6

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SECRET
The Secretary of State for the Colonies

11.3.47

59 Saving SUBANA SUBANA

Reported to His Majesty's Ambassador, Rome (No. 125)
Secret Saving.

By telegram No. 541 (not to Rome); illegal immigrant ship SUBANA.

I append the following extract from a report by the General Officer Commanding on the illegal immigrant ship SUBANA which ran ashore at a point near Majdal in the Gaza District on the night 11/12 March.

"The ship came from Italy, calling at night at various ports to embark the immigrants who had been brought in closed lorries and trains, mainly by night, from all parts of Europe. The sea voyage took ten days and it was thought that the route may have been via Greece and Roumania. Numbers of Romanians, Hungarians, Poles and Germans were on board but it is believed that only one Italian family was present.

3. Illegals alleged that the ship beached at 0600 hours and that approximately 50 immigrants managed to effect their escape. On the other hand, another source stated that landing took place between 0400 and 0500 hours."

Copies sent to:-

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| No. 10 Downing Street | - P.S. to Prime Minister |
| Lord President | - Private Secretary. |
| Admiralty | - Private Secretary. |
| " | - First Sea Lord. |
| " | - Mr. G.C.B. Dodds. |
| War Office | - Private Secretary. |
| " | - C.I.G.S. |
| " | - Lt. Col. J.G. Atkinson. |
| " | - Lt. Col. W. Gore. |
| " (M.O.4) | - Private Secretary. |
| " (M.I.3) | - Chief of Air Staff. |
| Air Ministry | - Sir N. Brook. |
| " | - Mr. E.A. Armstrong. |
| Cabinet Offices | - Private Secretary. |
| Foreign Office | - Mr. C.W. Baxter. |
| " | - Mr. Beith. |
| Ministry of Defence | - Private Secretary. |
| " | - Sir Henry Wilson Smith. |
| " | - Defence Registry. |
| M.I.5 | - Mr. J.O. Robertson. |
| Dominions Office | - Private Secretary. |
| Ministry of Transport | - Private Secretary. |
| Foreign Office (Research Dept.) | - Air Commodore K.C. Buss. |

ENTER
9.3.47

RECEIVED
C. C. REGY

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E3253

E3254

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371

61840

69

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E 3271 57
21 APR

PALESTINE

157

Registry Number } E3271/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

Lord Faversham
Washington

2272

16 April 1947
21 - -

Illegal Transport Ships. 'CADIO'
Refer Telegram to 777 (E2225/84/31)
When representation was originally made to
Panamaian Embassy in N York concerning
ships 'NORSYD' and 'BEAHHARNOS' reference
was made to 'CADIO' which was inadvertently
linked with other two, as having been
intercepted while engaged in illegal transport
traffic from America elsewhere.

Last Paper.

3254

(Minutes.)

References.

NA Dept. ^{Chamberlain} 23/4

13 Apr. 21

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

of Martin P.O.
Dodd & Smith / Adair
Letcher M15
Ragney April 21/47

(Action completed)

7 E 3271/4

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

3278

1
2
3
4
5
6

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58

E 3271

Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No.1.

FROM WASHINGTON TO FOREIGN OFFICE.

Lord Inverchapel D: 4.00 p.m. 16th April, 1947
No. 2272
16th April, 1947 R: 11.45 p.m. 16th April, 1947

Repeated to Jerusalem.

CONFIDENTIAL

Jerusalem telegrams to Secretary of State
Nos. 7[grp. undec.] and 777. 2275/34/11

Complaints against vessel "Cadio".

When representations were originally made to Panamanian Embassy in Washington concerning illegal immigrant ships "Norsyd" and "Beaharnois" reference was made to the possibility of the Cadio being engaged in same traffic since she had been sold in Costa Rica by War Assets Corporation on behalf of the Canadian Government to the same New York firm as the other two. I regret that, in reminding the Panamanian Ambassador of this previous communication when writing to him again on February 24th about illegal immigrants, we inadvertently linked the Cadio to the other two ships by saying that all three had been intercepted while engaged in this traffic. In fact, the latest news we have received of "Cadio" (see Chancery letter to Eastern Department 4421/03/47 of March 6th (P.L. No.04 to Jerusalem)) is that she may have been engaged in smuggling arms to Greece.

2. I suggest in the circumstances that United States Consul-General be told that while early evidence indicated that the "Cadio" might be engaged in illegal immigration traffic, statement that she was so engaged was made inadvertently. Subsequent information given in Chancery letter 4421/03/47 of 6th March might then be passed to him.

3. I much regret that this slip, which occurred in the course of a series of communications addressed to the Panamanian and Honduran Embassies here with the object of showing that we were very much alive to the misuse which was being made of ships under registry.

APR 17 1947

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70

1947

E

E 3278

59

PALESTINE

21 APR

Registry Number

TELEGRAM FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

E 3278/84/31
20 Redwood
Teleringford
211
18 April 1947
21

Illegal Immigrant Ships.

State VANARI for the Finnish Agents
Trade Union had received information
that efforts are being made to recruit through
agents for service on British ships which
have been transferred to Panama flag and that
recruits have been promised British terms
and conditions of employment while serving.
Thought story was far fetched.

Last Paper.

3271

References.

(Minutes.)

Northen Dept / 6.4.47. 1/2 23/4.

Curious

15 Apr. 21

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

v. Higham C.D.
Dodd's } Admty
Smith }
Kearney M15
Garvey
Gruel 21st

(Action completed.)

(Index)

GEM 22/4

[Handwritten initials]

Next Paper.

3300

3208 F.O.P.

1	2	3	4	5	6

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Y

E

E 3300

61

1947

PALESTINE

21 APR

Registry Number } E3300/84/31

TELEGRAM FROM

No. Des. O. O'Malley

Dated Lisbon

Received in Registry } 289

19 April 1947
21 - -

Illegal Immigrant Ship. 'Krode Wuch'
Refer # Otel 262 (E3254/84/31) Action taken
but fears for reasons given ineffective.
P.C.V. in telegraphing details of ship to
London and Gibraltar. He will also confirm
time of sailing and destination.

Last Paper.

3278

References.

(Minutes.)

Attach copy of Mr Hooper's letter
when entered
JD Apr. 22

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

cf. telegram B.V.
Dodds } Admty
Smith }
Leher MIS
Garvey
April 21

(Action completed.)

John

(Index)

[Signature]

Next Paper.

E3321

32008 F.O.P.

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62

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Cypher/OTP

DEPARTMENTAL No. 1

FROM LISBON TO FOREIGN OFFICE

Sir O. O'Malley
No. 289

D. 5.36 p.m. 19th April, 1947

R. 9.25 p.m. 19th April, 1947

19th April, 1947

u u u u u

IMMEDIATE

SECRET

Your telegram No. 262.

E 3300
21 APR

Action taken but fear for reasons given in Hooper's top secret letter of April 19th to Beith of India Office ineffective.

2. P.C.O. is telegraphing details of ship to London and Gibraltar. He will also confirm time of sailing and destination at present believed to be 1200 hours local time April 20th and Genoa respectively.



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FO 371 / 61840

72

E

63

1947

E 3321

22 APR

PALESTINE

Registry Number

E 3321/84/31

FROM

Embassy

No.

Paris

Dated

342

Received in Registry

18, April 1947
22 - -

Illegal Emigration Ship SS 'ANAK'
Enclosed copy of note no 374 to
Min of Foreign Affairs of 17/4,
stating that S.S. 'ANAK' is now
refitting at Marseilles and following exactly
precedence of 'GUARDIAN' prior to her
departure, asks urgent steps be taken
to prevent departure

Last Paper.

3300

(Minutes.)

Copy of
MIS ; usual names
JB Apr. 22

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of)

A. D. Higham
~~...~~ C.O.
1. depts MIS
April 23

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

GC 6224 4/24/48

Next Paper.

3345

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Reference: FO 371/61840

No. 342

64
K

HIS Majesty's Ambassador at Paris
presents his compliments to H.M.P.S. of S. for F.A.
and has the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

British...Embassy,.....
.....Paris.....

18th. April....., 194..7..

Reference to previous correspondence:

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
Copy of Note No. 374 to the My. of Foreign Affairs dated 17th April 1947.	Illegal immigration of Jews to Palestine.

E 3321
22

1	2	3	4	5	6

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